

by a peripheral rim, a lasting board mounted within the upper above the sole and extending forwardly from the heel portion toward the forefoot portion, said lasting board above the heel portion being devoid of penetrating channels, a rigid heel counter mounted in the upper above said heel portion, said sole being formed with a longitudinal channel in the midsole and outsole with the channel extending through the peripheral rim and with the channel dividing the midsole and outsole of the heel portion into a pair of laterally adjacent compression elements, said compression elements having interior sidewalls which are spaced apart an effective distance to isolate the compression elements from motion of their interior sidewalls and permitting independent movement of the compression elements, said channel extending upwardly through the sole and being separated from the upper by a connecting portion of the sole which has a vertical height that is effective to present a minimal transfer of motion between the compression elements responsive to stress forces whereby the heel counter and compression elements control the user's foot pronation movement with substantially low acceleration from an initial heel strike phase to a loading phase of the gait cycle for the shoe.

#### REMARKS

This is to confirm the telephonic interview with Examiner Ted Kavanaugh and the undersigned attorney for applicant on October 28, 1997. The foregoing amended claim 1 was discussed, and applicant's attorney explained the distinguishing features of amended claim 1 as set forth below. No agreement was reached concerning the claims during the interview.